

THE JERUSALEM POST

U.S. to rescue in Mexico debt

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SECOND EDITION

Rabin warns: unwise to 'test' IDF on Fatah Day

By MENACHEM SHALEV and BERNARD JOSEPHS

Defence Minister Rabin yesterday warned Palestinian activists not to "test" the IDF, as security forces completed preparations for tomorrow's potentially explosive anniversary of the founding of Fatah - the mainstream political and military wing of the PLO.

"Central Command is prepared and if anybody should try to make Fatah Day a big day, we will be ready for every possibility," said Rabin during a visit to the Dahariya camp near Hebron, where Palestinians arrested in the recent riots are imprisoned.

Should disturbances break out, the army will not hesitate to take the appropriate steps, the defence minister said. "If I have to choose between doing what should be done in the situation, and being criticized, which is not pleasant, I would prefer to do what needs to be done. It would be best [for demonstrators] not to test the army."

The army is sending massive reinforcements into the territories to preserve the peace tomorrow, and the police, too, are beefing up their forces. Police Inspector-General David Kraus said extra patrols and large-scale reinforcements would be sent to sensitive areas, especially to East Jerusalem. It is feared that the Fatah anniversary will be marked by

a renewal of the violence that rocked the West Bank and Gaza Strip earlier this month, resulting in 22 deaths.

As Rabin was speaking, Palestinian sources said the number of militants arrested in the territories in the past few days had swollen to at least 20. Many of those detained have

Sharp criticism

CAIRO (AFP) - Egyptian Foreign Minister Esmat Abdel-Meguid sharply criticized Israel's plans to expel some arrested Palestinian protesters, calling the measures a "flagrant violation of international law."

In the U.S., officials declined last night to relate publicly to statements made by Israeli leaders reaffirming their right to deport people involved in the riots. In private officials in Washington underline, however, that they are disappointed by the Israeli statements but add that they still hope that no decision to deport will actually be taken.

On the other hand, U.S. officials expressed satisfaction with the measures being taken in Israel to deal with disturbances without opening fire. "We see that on this essential point our advice has not gone unheeded," they said.

links with Ahmed Jibril's Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine - General Command, and about half had been released from Israeli jails in the 1985 prisoner swap. The sources said they feared that some of those under arrest might be candidates for expulsion.

The inner cabinet yesterday discussed the general situation in the territories in anticipation of Fatah Day and continued their talks on Israeli Arabs.

Because of Israel's deteriorating image abroad, the Foreign Ministry has recommended to the Defence Ministry that it refrain from "accelerated proceedings" in the military courts, that defence lawyers be appointed for all the accused, and that all those under the age of 14 who are currently under arrest be released on bail pending their trial.

During his visit to Dahariya yesterday, Rabin supported army details of claims that prisoners there are being kept in wretched conditions and are suffering harassment and ill-treatment.

After speaking to military officials, medical officers and the prisoners themselves, he said: "The conditions are reasonable and acceptable. Personally, if I had enjoyed conditions like these when I was held by the British, I would have been delighted."

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Explosive greeting in place of music

By JONATHAN KARP

TEL AVIV - David Asher was expected to hear music when he opened an envelope containing a thick Christmas card yesterday.

Instead, there was an explosion that would keep his ears ringing for hours. The letter-bomb also burned his left hand and lightly injured Mohammed Ma'aj of Gaza, who works with him.

"The envelope seemed strange because I do not have any acquaintances in Turkey," Asher, 26, said after being released from Tel Hashomer Hospital. "I opened the greeting card and thought I would hear music." When he didn't hear anything, Asher moved his hand slightly and the card exploded.

Asher's sister-in-law, Aviva, 22, had earlier opened the envelope with her one-year-old daughter, Shiran, on her lap.

Only Aviva and Shiran were home when Asher stopped by at around 9 a.m. with the envelope which he had picked up from the postman. It was addressed to Aviva's husband - Asher's brother Zoran - but had the wrong street and num-

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Istanbul address on flurry of mail-bombs

By ANDY COURT and MENACHEM SHALEV in Jerusalem and A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT in Ankara

The return address on eight letter-bombs received by Israelis during the last two days was that of an Istanbul hotel - the Dilson - frequented by Arabs. Turkish police said yesterday.

"This does not of course prove that Arabs sent them or that they were really sent from there," Istanbul Deputy Police Chief Mehmet Agar said.

In Israel, the police urged the public to be on the lookout for letter-bombs in this morning's mail.

Two people were slightly injured when one of the letter-bombs exploded yesterday morning in Or Yehuda, near Ben-Gurion Airport. (See adjacent story.) The other seven letter-bombs were discovered and neutralized in Kiryat Arba, Kiryat Bialik, Ramat Gan, and Tel Aviv.

The explosives were concealed in musical Christmas cards.

All the bombs so far have been in white envelopes (measuring 25 cm. by 16 cm.) sent from Turkey on December 23. The Israeli names were elegantly printed in English, and the return address included the name "D. Nissim" of Istanbul.

Police inspector-general David Kraus warned yesterday that anyone who receives a letter from

abroad from someone he does not know should immediately notify the police.

"It doesn't have to be an envelope like the ones we've discovered so far," Kraus said. "It could be a different colour or a different size, or even from a different country."

Parents should instruct their children not to play with the mail until the parents have inspected it, he said.

There does not appear to be a link between the people who have received the letter-bombs; nor is it clear which terrorist group is behind the attacks, Kraus said.

The first letter-bomb was discovered Tuesday afternoon in Kiryat Arba, after Binyamin Dayan, an

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At left, Avi Peer, chief superintendent of the police bomb squad, showing one of the letter-bombs that arrived from Turkey. At right, David Asher, who was injured by a bomb yesterday. (Media)

Terrorists shot in S. Lebanon

By DAVID RUDGE

JERUSALEM POST REPORTER ROSH HANKRA - A gunman was killed and another wounded and captured by IDF troops on Tuesday night in a clash with a terrorist gang on the perimeter of the security zone in South Lebanon, the IDF spokesman reported.

The incident occurred in the region of Armon village, eight kilometres north of Metulla, in stormy and extremely cold conditions. There were no casualties among the IDF soldiers.

The IDF troops spotted a band of terrorists and opened fire, killing one gunman and wounding another, who was later taken prisoner.

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News of youth's death may spark Gaza rumours

By BRADLEY BURSTON

GAZA - After a week of relative calm, IDF authorities yesterday expressed concern over the possibility of renewed unrest in the Gaza Strip as news spread of the death in Beer-sheva's Soroka Hospital of a Palestinian youth wounded last week by IDF troops during a violent demonstration.

Mustafa Said el-Ab, 17, of the Jebelaya refugee camp here, was shot in the head on the evening of December 22, after a large crowd near the camp's marketplace hurled metal and concrete debris at an IDF foot patrol. Trapped by the crowd, the soldiers fired first into the air, then into the crowd, hitting four youths.

One, shot in the eye, died instantly. Al-Ab, critically wounded, was airlifted in an IDF helicopter to Soroka, where he was in intensive care until he died yesterday morning.

Security sources viewed the death with particular concern, because rumours concerning alleged maltreatment of wounded demonstrators in Israeli hospitals had played a part in provoking unrest.

Anxious to forestall renewed rioting as Friday's anniversary of the founding of Fatah approaches, IDF officials have made strenuous attempts in recent days to reduce friction between Gazans and members of the security forces, who have maintained a considerably lower

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Active refusenik allowed to leave

By DAVID LANDAU

JERUSALEM POST REPORTER A leading Soviet Jewish activist and secrecy refusenik, "Arieh" Leonid Volkovsky, has received permission to emigrate to Israel, the Jerusalem-based Soviet Jewry Information Centre announced last night.

Volkovsky, 45, was released from a Siberian prison camp in March after serving two years of a three-year sentence for "slandering the Soviet state."

A Ph.D. in computer sciences, he has been in refusal since 1974, on the grounds of the secrecy of his work before that date.

A well-known Hebrew teacher and youth leader, both in his hometown, Gorky, and in Moscow, Volkovsky became Orthodox some years ago, and is now a key disciple of the Moscow spiritual leader, Vladimir Dushkevsky.

In New York last night, City Councilman Noah Dear, who has long pressed Moscow for Volkovsky's release, cited the "helpful response" of Constantine Kharchev, chairman of the committee for religions, in obtaining emigration visas for Volkovsky and his wife.

Peres taunts Likud benches: do you want talks with PLO?

By DVORAH GETZLER

Post Knesset Reporter The choice before Israel is between an international conference and direct negotiations with the PLO, which is quite ready for such talks, Foreign Minister Peres told the Knesset yesterday. And, he added, in the end the world will tell Israel that its partner in peace talks must be the PLO.

The strong statement came in reply to motions for the agenda from the Likud's Uri Landau and Labour's David Ben-Gurion.

"What is more important to you?" Peres asked his opponents on the right. "The political choice that faces Israel is between negotiations

without an international opening, but with the PLO, and negotiations with Jordan and the Palestinian people that will open under international auspices."

Peres used the opportunity to rehearse all his answers to the arguments that Premier Shamir has marshalled against the proposal for an international conference.

Citing U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz, Peres refuted Shamir's claim that an international conference would be bound to include the PLO.

Shultz, said Peres, had assured Shamir that the "London agreement" (between Peres and Jordan's King Hussein) specifically laid down

that every participant must accept Security Council Resolutions 242 and 333.

And to the Israeli claim that an international conference would not further the cause of peace, Shultz had written that the parties to the dispute had already taken a step in the direction of peace by merely making such an agreement.

"Yes, you can have talks without an international conference. But those talks will be with the PLO," Peres taunted the Likud benches.

"The PLO isn't insisting on an international conference. I'm giving you the latest information: the PLO is ready for direct negotiations with

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Dollar gets foreign aid

Post Economic Staff and Agencies

Central banks in Japan and Europe intervened yesterday to prop up the dollar, but dealers forecast no rally from the currency's present historic lows without decisive action by the U.S., which many doubt it will take.

In Tokyo, the dollar ended a three-day decline and closed unchanged from Tuesday's record low of 123.50 yen. It recovered slightly in European markets.

Such slight dollar selling as there was triggered buying by the central banks of Japan, West Germany, Switzerland and Italy.

But dealers doubted if central banks could keep the dollar from falling further early in 1988 if the U.S. Federal Reserve Board does not help more vigorously than it has seemed to do recently.

Worries about the dollar led to predictions that 1988 may see new volatility in share prices around the globe. But trading in shares yesterday was thin, as the tumult of 1987 abated in the year-end holiday season.

At the New York Commodity Exchange, gold closed at \$482.70 a troy ounce, down \$3.40 from \$486.10 on Tuesday, and silver closed at \$6.617, up from \$6.513 the previous day.

New Year postponed--by one second

PARIS (Reuters) - New Year revellers will have to wait an extra second to toast the arrival of 1988, by order of the world's official timekeepers.

The Paris-based Bureau International de l'Heure has decreed that 1987 must be extended by a second, which will be slotted in before the chimes of midnight on December 31.

The second is needed to make up a slowing of the earth's rotation which has put the planet slightly behind time measured by atomic clocks, accurate to one-billionth of a second per day.

"Every day the earth loses one-thousandth of a second against scientific time," said the bureau's deputy director, Martine Feissel.

She told Reuters the earth was speeding up from the lethargic pace it hit 15 years ago, but was still behind atomic time.

"If it continues rotating faster, then we might have to start taking the seconds away in 10 years or so," she added.

The time lag is of little concern to ordinary folk, but is bothersome to scientists, communications organizations and other experts who demand perfect synchronization.

The extra second will be officially added just before midnight GMT, but countries around the world are expected to slip it in at midnight local time.



Some 300 blind people demonstrate yesterday outside the Finance Ministry, carrying placards asking why there are no budgets for the blind, and demanding equality with other disabled citizens. The demonstrators want suitable employment and increased grants and benefits. Finance Minister Nissim met with a delegation of the protestors and promised to examine their case. (Rahamim Israeli)

Eda Haredit sets up Aids-free blood bank

By JUDY SIEGEL

The ultra-Orthodox Eda Haredit, fearful of getting Aids through blood transfusions, has sent a group of 150 "pure-blooded" yeshiva students to donate blood that will be used in surgery performed on members of its community.

Rabbi Yehoshua Scheinberger, "health minister" of the Eda and head of Raza, the organization for "Medicine According to Halacha," says he initiated the Aids-free blood donations. The genealogy of the yeshiva students has been scrutinized "back five or six generations" in order to ensure that they come from "pure, holy families," Scheinberger told The Jerusalem Post yesterday. Only those who do not have someone in the family who is newly observant, divorced, addicted to drugs or homosexual have been allowed to donate blood for Raza, he claimed.

The Health Ministry spokesman declared that Raza's "pure-blood" donation project was "nonsense," since all blood donated in Israel is checked very carefully for Aids antibodies before it is used in transfusions. "Since we started this over a year ago, there has not been a single case of Aids transmitted through blood donations."

Gassing of Jews termed victory of economics in German military journal

BONN (AP) - An unofficial West German military journal, citing the gassing of the Jews as a "victory of economic principles," yesterday led to a bitter protest and a disavowal from the nation's Defence Ministry.

Defence Ministry officials here said that the monthly journal is aimed at civilian employees of the West German military and is an "unofficial publication."

The article was written by Rainer Reinhardt, vice-president of the 7th Military District Administration in Bavaria, and appeared in a manual for military administrators. Heinz Galinski, the president of West Berlin's Jewish community, called the article a "flagrant disparagement of the memory of the murdered and the evidence of alarming anti-democratic thinking."

The passage in the article criticized by Galinski, said: "This poses the fundamental question whether economy as a formal principle under a power dedicated to serve public welfare can be applied universally. If we look at from the point of view that the end justifies the means, then the use of poison gas for the mass extermination of Jews instead of individual executions also was a victory of economic principles."

The article further stated that this "frightful episode" shows that the principle of being economical can and must be only one of the principles governing behaviour in a democracy.

Late last night the Defence Ministry apologized to the country's Jewish community for the article.

In her apology, Secretary of State for Defence, Agnes Huertlandt-Baerling said she was "appalled by this extreme mark of cynicism."

"I feel embarrassed for the person who wrote these words and I present my apologies," she said. Her ministry decried the article as "unacceptable" and ordered an immediate inquiry.

Galinski said the article was intended to "motivate military administrators to be economical." He also called on Defence Minister Manfred Woerner to "draw necessary consequences and take corresponding measures" about the "scandalous publication."

The Defence Ministry in Bonn confirmed that the article included such a passage and released its full text.

The ministry said the article was a "private contribution for an unofficial manual which is published by a private publisher and is available to anyone."

The author wanted to say that the principle of being economical could be perverted if it is interpreted strictly formally and is not determined by ethics, the ministry said.

"But regardless of the outcome of the investigation, the Defence Ministry is of the opinion that such an example of criminal behaviour of state power during the illegal rule of the Nazis for such an explanation is in any case unacceptable," the ministry said.

A member of the opposition Social Democratic party called on Woerner to apologize in the name of the entire military and to take disciplinary steps against Reinhardt.

The Defence Ministry should check whether Reinhardt can remain in his post, said Wilfried Penner, deputy floor leader of Social Democrats in the federal parliament.

'Israeli policeman' held for shoplifting in Oxford Street

By A Special Correspondent

LONDON - A man describing himself as a top Israeli police officer has been arrested in London for alleged shoplifting.

Shlomo Beimeester, who told a court he was a member of the anti-terrorist squad, was detained by security staff at Debenhams store in Oxford Street on Christmas Eve. He was accused of stealing a cigarette lighter worth £15.

Beimeester said he was on his way home to Israel after attending a special course with the FBI in Washington. He appeared on Tuesday at Wells Street Magistrates' Court, where he said he was prepared to plead guilty if he was allowed to catch a flight to Israel the same day.

The magistrates refused the request and ordered him to appear again in March when they released him on bail. Beimeester, who spent Christmas with relatives in north London and is now back in Israel, told the court he was unable to return in March and asked that a solicitor represent him instead. But he was warned that if he didn't show up a warrant would be issued for his arrest.

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Beat that deadline!

The weather at major Swissair destinations

	MIN.	MAX.	
30.12.87	°C	°F	
AMSTERDAM	9	12	Cloudy
BAGDAD	18	24	Cloudy
BUEENOS AIRES	18	24	Cloudy
CHICAGO	-8	21	Cloudy
COPENHAGEN	7	10	Clear
FRANKFURT	5	10	Cloudy
GENEVA	0	3	Cloudy
HONG KONG	21	28	Clear
JERUSALEM	19	25	Clear
LONDON	7	14	Clear
MADRID	1	12	Cloudy
MONTREAL	1	12	Cloudy
NEW YORK	-4	2	Cloudy
OSLO	1	4	Cloudy
PARIS	9	12	Cloudy
SAO PAULO	24	30	Cloudy
STOCKHOLM	-1	2	Cloudy
TOKYO	12	16	Clear
TORONTO	-4	3	Cloudy
VIENNA	0	3	Cloudy
ZURICH	5	8	Cloudy

*For the latest weather conditions contact Swissair.
Tel Aviv: Ben Gurion Airport Tel. 052-5220.
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Bagdad: Ben Gurion Airport Tel. 052-5220.
Sao Paulo: Ben Gurion Airport Tel. 052-5220.
Tokyo: Ben Gurion Airport Tel. 052-5220.
Vienna: Ben Gurion Airport Tel. 052-5220.
Zurich: Ben Gurion Airport Tel. 052-5220.

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THE WEATHER

	Yesterday's	Yesterday's	Today's
	Humidity	Min-Max	Max
Jerusalem	77	4-11	12
Golan	63	6-11	12
Nahariya	57	9-16	16
Safed	78	6-9	11
Haifa Port	55	10-17	18
Tiberias	70	11-18	19
Nazareth	58	10-16	17
Afula	58	10-16	17
Shomron	64	8-14	15
Tel Aviv	58	11-18	18
B-G Airport	71	10-16	18
Jericho	77	11-19	20
Gaza	68	13-15	18
Beersheba	81	10-16	17
Eilat	56	8-19	20

SOCIAL & PERSONAL

President Herzog received the retiring chief minister of Gibraltar, Sir Joshua Hassan at Beit Hanassi yesterday. Herzog later received the president of PEN, Bogdan Pogachnik of Yugoslavia, who was accompanied by Israeli author Haim Guri.

Argentina may revoke citizenship of Nazi suspect

By TOM TUGEND and Agencies

Argentina has moved to revoke the citizenship of Nazi war crimes suspect Josef Schwammberger, the government announced yesterday. Schwammberger, 75, was being held in La Plata pending a West German extradition request on allegations that he was responsible for the deaths of about 1,000 people, mostly Jews, while he commanded two labour camps in occupied Poland during World War II. Secretary of Justice Enrique Paixao gave instructions to prosecutors to revoke Schwammberger's citizenship, saying the pending charges are so "severe that the government considers it unworthy for him to possess" Argentine citizenship. Paixao said the government would move quickly to handle the extradition request. Schwammberger, who has been in custody since November 13, faces West German charges that include murder, blackmail and stealing gold fillings and jewelry from victims. Before Paixao's announcement, the dean of the Simon Wiesenthal Centre in Los Angeles, Rabbi Marvin Hier, told a press conference that a dozen eyewitness accounts would be presented to the government of Argentina next month to support Schwammberger's extradition. Hier said Schwammberger's SS file contains 80 pages and has references from 1933 to 1939 but nothing between 1939 and 1945. He said that was "absolute evidence" that the file had been doctored. "There exist extreme groups there that would like to keep Schwammberger in Argentina," Hier said. Hier said one of the eyewitness accounts to be presented to Argentina was provided by Bernard Goldberg of Los Angeles, who was imprisoned at a camp in Mielec. Goldberg's statement recounts how on one occasion Schwammberger allegedly lost his temper and killed a group of 17 boys who were overheard talking about how conditions were better at another camp.

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profile in refugee camps and urban centres. But last night fears were expressed that yesterday's death would, in the words of one Civil Administration officer, "reopen fresh wounds."

"Despite the arrests, the fuel for an explosion always exists here. All it takes is one spark to light the fuse."

Although the IDF presence is less noticeable, there is in fact a large number of troops in the Gaza Strip; reinforcements were sent in yesterday, and more soldiers are expected to arrive today.

Part of the traffic in men and material, security sources said yesterday, is the result of lessons learned during the two weeks of rioting, when IDF patrols unschooled in riot-control techniques were repeated.

HOME AND FOREIGN NEWS

Egyptian lawyers, students protest 'Israeli oppression'

CAIRO (AP) - Students burned a replica of the Israeli flag at the American University in Cairo and Egypt's lawyers declared a one-day strike yesterday to protest against Israeli actions in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

About 150 Palestinian and Egyptian students assembled in a campus auditorium to express "solidarity with the Palestinian people" and read speeches condemning "Israeli oppression."

The demonstrations followed a similar protest last week by students at Cairo's Ain Shams University, and opposition party newspapers have reported anti-Israel rallies at Cairo University.

Egypt has also condemned Israel's recent clampdown and the fatal shooting of at least 22 Palestinian rioters in the territories. In the government's latest statement yesterday, Foreign Minister Esmat Abdel-

Meguid warned Israel that the carrying out of threats to deport alleged trouble-makers would damage Middle East peace efforts further.

Luis Grace, the spokesman at the American University, said the school normally forbids on-campus political activity by students, but the administration gave permission for yesterday's indoor demonstration. He said the flag-burning violated that agreement, but the student participants would not be punished.

Speakers at the rally, standing behind a table draped with the PLO flag, called on Egypt to close its border with Israel and take steps towards breaking relations with the Jewish state.

About 50 people streamed out afterwards and proceeded to a corner of the campus, where they burned a cloth replica of the Israeli flag as they chanted: "Palestine is Arab."

The Bar Association's one-day

strike appeared to be only partially effective.

Some lawyers said they disagreed with the strike, while others were against a late-afternoon demonstration planned for the Bar Association headquarters. Several of them said they had not attended scheduled court sessions because of the strike.

"We all sympathize with the Palestinian struggle from the bottom of our hearts," said lawyer Nabil Nigm at a court in Cairo. His colleague, Serri el-Hefnawi, said: "I personally don't support the strike."

El-Hefnawi said so many lawyers were attending court that he had seen no evidence that the strike had any effect.

Nevertheless, the government-owned Middle East News Agency said many lawyers across the country had stayed away from courtrooms.

PLO request said to be behind shipment of medical supplies from Europe to Gaza

By MICHEL ZLOTOWSKI

PARIS - The EC decision Tuesday to send \$260,000 worth of medical supplies to the Gaza Strip followed a request by the PLO to French authorities, according to Ibrahim Souss, the PLO's bureau chief in Paris.

Souss said the French authorities responded to the appeal by saying

that it was being considered. But when the decision was made, he said, the EC commission in Brussels to act on it, after deciding against "going it alone." The French Foreign Ministry said that it had asked its embassy in Tel Aviv to investigate the medical situation in Gaza.

Souss added that he had forwarded his request after receiving an ap-

peal from Umrwa.

Officials in Jerusalem yesterday said sarcastically that the meagre sum appropriated by the EC will fail to make an impression even on the intended beneficiaries - the Palestinians.

The medical aid is expected to be dispensed through non-governmental organizations.

Gazit: Crackdown on just one spot would quiet areas

By JOSHUA BRILLIANT

TELAVIV - Aluf (res.) Shlomo Gazit, a former head of the military government in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, yesterday criticized the methods used to quell the recent riots in the territories. He suggested that the government should have let most Arabs strike and demonstrate, while cracking down on one trouble spot.

Addressing a symposium organized by Tel Aviv University's Dayan Centre, Gazit said that when he had been coordinator of activities from August 1967 to April 1974 the authorities would sometimes let the Arab population close shops

and schools as they chose.

When the authorities could no longer ignore disturbances, they would avoid "photogenic clashes." A face-to-face fight must lead to an escalation requiring use of fire - and that will be photogenic, he said.

Even if disturbances sweep the entire West Bank and Gaza Strip, a single locale should be selected for treatment. "Break the riot there in a way that everyone will understand - and fear," he suggested.

Gazit, who was subsequently head of Military Intelligence, cited the tactics he and then defence minister Moshe Dayan had used to quell a school

and business strike in Nablus in September 1967. The army brought the town to heel by imposing a curfew and preventing produce from leaving. Nablus, which thrived on being a commercial centre, watched its business go elsewhere, and Nablus residents were not allowed to cross the Jordan River bridges.

After several weeks the intensely nationalistic town "came to its knees and asked forgiveness." The message was grasped by all other residents of the territories.

"I don't know why we have to mess around with 1,308 detainees," said Gazit. "Select one spot, Ramallah for example, expel two or four rioters, and everybody will learn the lesson."

Military court to hear appeal to free Nahal guard who fled

By JOSHUA BRILLIANT

TEL AVIV - A military court of appeals at defence headquarters here is to consider a request today or tomorrow to free Ronni Almog, the Nahal soldier who was on guard duty at his brigade's headquarters during the "night of the hang-gliders," but fled when an attacker approached.

Six soldiers were killed and seven wounded on November 25 when an infiltrator crossed the northern border in a hang-glider and attacked the Nahal camp.

Almog was arrested on Tuesday, after he was charged with disgraceful conduct in connection with military activities, a crime that carries a maximum penalty of 15 years' imprisonment. He was also charged with deserting his post in the face of the enemy, for which the maximum sentence is 10 years.

The prosecution asked to have Almog arrested immediately, and the president of the Central District Military Court, Aluf Mishne Zvi Gorfinkel, granted the request, sending Almog to Prison No. 4 at Tzrifin.

But defence attorney Sereen Elia Caspi appealed against the arrest. He argued that during the past

month senior officers had studied the incident and none had ordered Almog's arrest - so Almog should not be jailed now.

Ofir Ben-Eliezer, who was the Nahal brigade's operations officer and was duty commander at the camp when the attack occurred, has been suspended from his post but has not been detained.

Ben-Eliezer allegedly failed to pass on a warning that an attacker was on the way. He has been charged with negligence, which carries a maximum penalty of two years' imprisonment, and with unbecoming behaviour, which usually results in a demotion.

Chief of General Staff Dan Shomron had also decided to discharge Ben-Eliezer from the IDF. But before he took any action on the decision, Ben-Eliezer won a temporary restraining order from the High Court of Justice blocking his discharge.

Almog and Ben-Eliezer are to be court-martialed together in the Central District Military Court in Jaffa. The date for the trial will be set shortly, a military source told *The Jerusalem Post*.

Shomron has approved a recommendation to discharge another of-

ficer and three NCOs who had been at the Nahal camp on the night of the attack.

He said this week that the four soldiers had failed to meet the standards of conduct expected of men in their position.

The officer, a lieutenant, ran to get a gun, then ran elsewhere to get a flak jacket. "He ran a lot, but ended up at the far end of the camp," and thus as far away as one could be from the attacker without leaving the compound, Shomron said. "He has many explanations, but by my standards, an officer who hears shots should be in the area where the attacker is."

The three NCOs were near the gate when the attacker entered the camp "and they fled," he said.

The CGS has discussed the incident with officers from all branches of the IDF from the rank of colonel up. Some said his predecessors had refrained from action following past cases in which shortcomings were revealed, such as the incident in which eight Nahal soldiers surrendered in Lebanon without a shot being fired. But Shomron said he decided on discharges and court-martial to create new higher standards of behaviour in the army.

Hot debate over 'Jewish Syndrome'

By DVORAH GETZLER

Yehoshua Sobol's controversial play *Jerusalem Syndrome* was castigated by Israel's right-wing yesterday and defended as botchy by the left in a Knesset debate on its suitability for inclusion in the programme of the state's 40th anniversary celebrations.

But Education and Culture Minister Yitzhak Navon distanced himself and the government from the controversy. It was not for the government to take a stand on the play, he said. And he advised the Knesset to drop the issue. It would be better for

the public to arrive at its own decision, he suggested.

Tehiya's Gula Cohen, however, urged that the play be banned and that Sobol follow the example of his hero and commit suicide rather than seek to bring down the state by such "abominations" as this drama. Only the "National Dissolution Government" could have countenanced a play that likened the IDF to Nazis, she charged.

The Knesset was not the censorship board, nor the nation's kindergarten teacher. Citizens Rights Movement MK Shulamit Aloni in-

cluded. Good theatre, she said, reflected conflict, and relevant theatre reflected current conflicts.

No one could deny the parallels between the present time and the period in which Sobol had set the play's action. Israel was still torn between the insularity and arrogance of national egotism and the humanist values inherent in Judaism. As for the play's comments on Jewish soldiers, they had their parallels in the past few weeks when IDF soldiers had been seen on television firing live ammunition at civilians, with in a nearby telephone pole to sever

British official, on way to Israel, criticizes treatment of Palestinians

By MENACHEM SHALEV

British Foreign Office Minister David Mellor criticized Israel's treatment of the Palestinians before flying to Israel last night.

In interviews in London, Mellor said recent violent demonstrations in the West Bank and Gaza Strip "simply show the impossibility of the situation."

The administered territories "exist in a form of limbo with the 1.5 million Palestinians denied a range of basic human rights," he said. "In the longer run there can be no security for the State of Israel unless that problem is settled."

Mellor, who is Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe's deputy responsible for Middle East affairs, expects to have talks with Prime Minister Shamir and Foreign Minister Peres.

Mellor, who went straight to Jerusalem in a British Embassy limousine last night after landing at Ben Gurion airport, will only arrive "officially" in Israel on Tuesday next week. He will spend his first two days here on a private vacation and then spend two days in the administered territories.

Mellor's visit to the territories is being held under the auspices of the British Consulate General in Jerusalem, while his later meetings with Israeli officials are being coordinated by the British Embassy in Tel Aviv.

On Sunday, Mellor will tour the West Bank and meet with Palestinian leaders. On Monday he will tour Gaza and meet with Palestinian leaders and with Umrwa officials.

Mellor is accompanied by his wife, as well as by the head of the British Foreign Office's Near East and North African desk, Allan Gouley, and other officials.



Demonstrating lawyers in Cairo burn replicas of the Israeli and American flags yesterday. (Reuters)

Revote on Sharon's security costs

By ASHER WALLFISH

Post Knesset Correspondent

Alignment MK Haim Ramon persuaded the Finance Committee yesterday to reconsider its decision for a special allocation of NIS 70,000 for security near the home of Industry and Trade Minister Ariel Sharon in the Moslem Quarter of Jerusalem's Old City.

The second vote will take place next Monday.

Ramon demanded that the Treasury give a full account of the cost to the taxpayer of protecting Sharon's Negev ranch and his new Jerusalem home.

Ramon said: "Our ministers require protection, naturally, but a high-risk minister should not be allowed to set up home wherever he wants, and to own an unlimited number of homes, all of which need their own guards."

This week, for the first time, Sharon and his wife stayed overnight in their Moslem Quarter home, as he had ordered expensive bullet-proof glass for his windows which is not available in Israel. The glass has never been seen here, except in the special limousines brought in for VIPs like Pope Paul VI, and U.S. presidents Carter, Nixon and Ford.

Concern over school sticker fad

By ASHER WALLFISH

Post Knesset Correspondent

The latest fad to take hold of Israeli 10-year-olds, the "Garbage Gang Gimmick," has prompted the National Religious Party's David Danino to ask Education Minister Yitzhak Navon to have the sticker fad officially barred from elementary schools.

Children caught up in the "Garbage Gang" craze buy stickers and fill up albums with such titles as "Champion Boor," "Super-Guzzler," "Prince of Punk," "Yuk King," "Big Thug" and more, Danino noted.

Kids who fill complete albums are entitled to purchase "licences" and "certificates" of various kinds, such as "Crazy Driver Licence," "Licence to be a Pain in the Ass," and "Young Delinquents' School Certificate."

Danino pointed out to Navon that the child who buys a "Crazy Driver Licence" is taught that he has the right to "drive on the pavement to get around traffic jams," and to "drive through stop signs."

The "Licence to be Loathsome" advises its bearer to "behave as repulsively as he is in real life," the MK told the minister.

Jewish triumph over Hitler, Kristallnacht recalled in ceremony

By GRIER FAY CASHEMAN

Jerusalem Post Reporter

In Jerusalem's Great Synagogue last night, during a ceremony commemorating Kristallnacht, a Holocaust survivor held aloft a copy of the last will and testament of Adolf Hitler as a symbol of Jewish triumph over adversity.

In the document held by Yisrael Lau, chief rabbi of Netanya, Hitler ordered his followers to minutely observe his racial laws and to "resist without mercy the universal poison of all people: international Judaism."

There was a certain satisfaction, said Lau, in reading this document in this place in the presence of the president, the spiritual leaders and the representatives of the government of Israel.

He declared the commencement of the 50th anniversary year of Kristallnacht, when the Nazis burnt synagogues and holy books and broke

the windows of Jewish establishments.

President Herzog said that the destruction of the synagogues was the first of the barbarous acts perpetrated by the Nazis in their mission to destroy the roots of Jewish culture.

For every synagogue destroyed by the Germans, he said, 100 had been established in Israel, which had become the greatest Jewish spiritual centre in history.

Sephardi Chief Rabbi Mordechai Eliahu suggested that synagogues and houses of study should bear the names of those destroyed by the Nazis.

Failure by the Church to condemn the wholesale destruction of Jewish houses of worship was bitterly criticized by both Lau and Religious Affairs Minister Zevulun Hammer.

The Kristallnacht anniversary, which actually falls on November 9, has been linked to the Hebrew calendar date of the 10th of Tefet.

UK chief rabbi made a lord

LONDON (AP) - Sir Immanuel Jakobovits, Britain's chief rabbi, has been named a life peer in the queen's New Year's honours list. As such, he is entitled to a seat in the House of Lords.

Bus stoned in Jerusalem

Jerusalem Post Staff

Stones thrown from the wall of Jerusalem's Old City hit a bus yesterday evening and lightly injured two passengers, the police spokesman said.

The bus was travelling on Sultan Suleiman St., which runs along the northern wall of the Old City, at about 6:30 p.m., according to police spokesman Rafi Levy.

Gorbachev sends Wilner New Year's greeting

Jerusalem Post Reporter

MK Meir Wilner, secretary-general of the Israel Communist Party (Rakah), received a New Year's greeting yesterday from Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the Soviet Communist Party.

The greetings were personally signed by the Soviet leader, and Gorbachev expressed his wishes for "a just peace for the nations of the Middle East."

Diamond heist in Safad

SAFAD (Itim) - Diamonds valued at several hundred thousand dollars were stolen Tuesday night from a large diamond-polishing workshop here.

In deep sorrow, we announce the death of our dear

SARAH (Shoshana) WALLENSTEIN

The funeral will take place today, Thursday, December 31, 1987 (10 Tefet 5748) at 12 noon at the Southern Cemetery on the Holon-Bat Yam boundary.

We shall meet at the main entrance.

Mourners:
Prof. Meir Wallenstein
and all the families

Please refrain from condolence visits.

OLYMPIC

We share the grief and sorrow of our colleague ALEX RABINO on the passing of his

Father

Management and staff

YAD VASHEM - Heroes and Martyrs Remembrance Authority

We share the grief of

HANNA ABELS

on the death of her

Father

and offer condolences to the family.

Management and Staff

'TV journalism mistreats democracy'

AMIR OFNER, for more than 40 years a working journalist here and abroad, believes that television-led journalism puts an undue stress on democracy. "Democracy, like any other commodity, becomes brittle with use. If one does not handle it properly, it may snap in the hands of those who love it."



Sraya Shapiro

The ostensible purpose of journalism is to inform. By telling the truth to the greatest possible number of people, journalists serve democracy. However, in the pursuit of their vocation, journalists have of late fallen victim to two misconceptions. One is that good news is no news. The other is that good journalism means indisputable anti-establishmentism.

The consumer of news - the average citizen who reads newspapers or watches television - is thus fed with lopsided information.

"Finally," Ofner says, "he may be so disgusted with the establishment, which is constantly described as inept, that he aspires to be a dictator to put matters straight. There is no greater danger to democracy."

THE GREATEST threat comes from the television news, Ofner believes. A written account is by its nature an exercise in the abstract: one ponders what one reads. The TV impact is visual and direct. It has

no use for subtlety, for reflection - it is either love or hate. It wants drama, action. It is incapable of giving the public any means of considering issues, helping it to choose the right representatives capable of making the right decisions.

The people who operate TV news are often unaware of the power they wield. "Like children who play with matches." What is even worse is that print journalists often get blinded by the TV glare and try to imitate it. Nonsense, says Ofner: the two media are intrinsically different.

But it did not all start with the advent of television. Thomas Jefferson, the great defender of the principle of a free press, complained in a letter in 1807 that "nothing can now be believed which is seen in a news-

paper. Truth itself becomes suspicious by being put into that polluted vehicle." However, he never said this in public. In public he stated, "The only security of all is a free press."

Well, muses Ofner, anything is better than dictatorship. But it is a pity the democratic media do not unerringly help choose the right man for the job.

DR. FRANCIS AMIR OFNER has not always been a journalist. As a student of law at the Zagreb University back in the early 1930s, he became president of the United Zionist Students' Club, created after the merger of the Ashkenazi and Sephardi groups. He became a Betar representative in Yugoslavia on the eve of the Second World War and helped organize "illegal" immigration to Palestine when the official Zionist establishment "was merely talking."

He took part in planning the overthrow of the pro-Nazi government in Belgrade in 1941, then moved to Budapest, where he stayed a year, hiding from the authorities before crossing to Turkey on false documents.

He became a liaison officer at the U.S. Information Office in Istanbul, organizing pro-Allied information in six Nazi-occupied countries, and

was a co-founder of the International Rescue and Relief Committee, sponsored by the American Federation of Labour, which operated in Turkey between 1943 and 1945.

And then he came to Tel Aviv and became a journalist.

The list of newspapers to which Ofner has contributed is most impressive. It includes *The Christian Science Monitor*, *The Observer*, *Bonn's Die Welt*, and *The Jewish Chronicle*. He was even, for a short stint, deputy editor of *The Jerusalem Post* and editor-in-chief of the French-language *L'Information d'Israel*. His present association is with Axel Springer's publications in West Germany.

But he occasionally crossed the fence and entered government service - as information adviser to the first U.S. Aid Mission to Israel, then as press counselor to the Israeli Embassy in Washington and the Israeli mission to the UN. It is probably this experience that helps Ofner to take the journalist's profession with some humility.

Newsman would do themselves a service, he thinks, if they indulged in some soul-searching. And the public - yes, the readers, the TV watchers - could make their views clear not only by writing to the editor, but, for example, by staging a demonstration. Why not?

After the summit: A challenge to glasnost

THE OPPORTUNITIES opened up by *glasnost* are apparently endless. Even in such a simple matter as telephone calls, it is now possible, for the first time in seven years, to dial direct to Moscow from the West rather than sit endlessly awaiting the whim of an overworked Moscow telephone operator.

Not only can one now make swift telephonic connections, but one can also measure in human terms the benefits of the new Soviet attitude. Last February, when I was present at the United Nations in Geneva to appeal on behalf of Ida Nudel, Vladimir Slepak, Victor Braslovsky and other long-term refuseniks, it seemed quite beyond the bounds of possibility that they - and so many of their fellow Jewish activists - would be living in Israel by the end of 1987 as they are now doing.

Yet these exciting changes hide a less pleasant reality: Tens of thousands (even hundreds of thousands) of Russia's two million Jews seem, by the newly-promulgated exit visa regulations, to have lost the right even to apply to leave. For those who might wish to apply to leave in future years, even in 1988, the outlook is bleak. Also among those for whom it seems the bell of *glasnost* does not toll are several families who have been waiting to leave for more than 16 years. One of these, Yuly Kosharovskiy, recently appealed directly to Reagan and Gorbachev.

In his appeal, Kosharovskiy explained that he had decided to write this letter to the leaders "after 17 years of desperate and futile attempts to leave the USSR for Israel with my family." His children were growing up as refuseniks, unable openly to study "their own language, Hebrew," and in an atmosphere of "searches, arrests and the permanent threat of harassment."

Kosharovskiy has been refused his exit visa on the grounds that he is in possession of Soviet state secrets. Yet 20 years have now passed since, as he

Martin Gilbert



Yuly Kosharovskiy (M. Gilbert)

explains in his letter. "I resigned from the Scientific Research Institute of Automatism in Sverdlovsk, where I had access to secrets. When I resigned, I signed a declaration that I would not leave the Soviet Union for three years."

Those three years passed. Then, in 1970, Kosharovskiy applied to leave for Israel. He was refused. The 20-year period since he resigned from his secret work, he notes in a section of his letter addressed specifically to Gorbachev, "constitutes a period seven times as long as the three-year restriction imposed on me at the time of my resignation; four times as long as the maximum period of the validity of secrets as announced by

Piotr Demichev, the head of the special commission for emigration and citizenship, and a candidate member of the Politburo to visiting attorney-generals from the United States.

"It is even twice as long as the 10 years that you, Mr. Secretary-General, mentioned in an interview with French television in 1985 - and repeated in front of American congressmen in 1987 - as the upper limit of preventing people from emigrating from the Soviet Union because of their knowledge of state secrets."

For more than two decades, Israel has been central to the dreams, thoughts and actions of Yuly Kosharovskiy's life. As he explained to me when we first met, now nearly five years ago, like most Soviet Jews of his generation he had felt no identification at all with the Jewish State until 1967. Then, in his own words: "During the Six Day War the Soviet newspaper said Israel was being crushed. That thousands of Israelis were dead. That Israel was being swept away in an Arab sea."

"I made a big antenna in my house to try to get information. I couldn't. I felt a blow. I wanted to die with my people. But then the official news changed. Israel had won, but only as the aggressor, using overwhelming force against a defenceless foe. It was a clear lie 'against my people'."

From that moment, Yuly Kosharovskiy has devoted all his energies to being a part of his "people" in Israel - a place which for him is not merely an imaginary or idealized dream but a real and integral part of his struggle, and that of his refusenik friends. Speaking over the telephone to a gathering in Tel Aviv, held on the first day of the Washington summit, he declared, with emotion and conviction: "I do not dare to say what would happen to Soviet Jewry were it not for the State of Israel and for the very fact of its existence, and for its support."

Peli's 'Tora Today' in demand around the world

THE PITHY combination of traditional commentary, Jewish history, world culture and current issues that make up "Tora Today" have universal appeal, evidenced by the fact that it is being translated into and published in such diverse languages as Portuguese and Japanese seems to indicate an interest that goes far beyond a parochial Jewish audience.

"Tora Today," which began as a column in *The Jerusalem Post* and is still a regular attraction in the Friday paper and international edition, is now available in book form (B'nai

Haim Shapiro

B'rith Books). According to author Pinchas Peli, the book has how attracted the interest of the U.S. Roman Catholic National Council of Bishops, which wants to put out its own special edition.

The first printing in Japanese is scheduled for 5,000 volumes, and it is also to appear in Dutch. Peli, who is a professor at Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, also reports that the book has been recorded on

tape for the Talking Books series of the Jewish Braille Institute of America.

He has already been the recipient of a steady stream of letters from around the world, including many from Orthodox, Conservative and Reform rabbis. Some of them acknowledge that they borrow from his insights for their weekly sermons. But also typical was a letter that came recently from a village in Africa.

Most recently, Peli received two enquiries about publishing the book in French. One came from the (Or-

thodox) Consiroire, the other from the French Organization of Liberal Jews. A group in Argentina wants to publish it in Spanish and a Hungarian emigre group wants to publish it for distribution in Hungary.

Peli admits he never expected the book to have such a wide appeal, and he is encouraged by the attraction that the Tora seems to have for diverse people.

"Prayer can sometimes divide people," he muses, "but the study of Tora can unite them, despite their differences."

SOCCER Israel beat Poland in winter youth tourney

Post Sports Staff
Israel's youth team gave themselves a fair chance of advancing to the finals of the International Junior soccer tournament when they defeated the Poland side 1-0 at Kfar Sava yesterday. Oren Mucharier netted the all-valuable winner a bare three minutes from time.

But now it all depends on Israel gaining a big favour from Iceland. This following Hungary's 1-0 victory over Switzerland which leaves them unbeaten in the same group. Israel must now beat Cyprus in Petah

Tikva today in their last remaining group match today and hope that the Hungarians falter against Iceland. Yesterday Iceland defeated Cyprus to move into third place in the table.

If Israel don't reach the finals, they will play for third place against either Romania or Ireland who are challenging for the top spot in the A Group.

Israel's overall performance yesterday was, however, not all that impressive. The Poles had the ad-

vantage for most of the match, the advantage telling not so much because of the superior individual talents of the Polish side but because Israel's youngsters couldn't get their act together as a team unit. Mucharier opened the game with a shot over the bar and five more shots in the first half by Saportas, Zohar, Banin and Aharonov were just flashes of Israel's true ability.

In the boys tournament both Israel's teams lost yesterday, the Israel A losing 1-0 to Romania and the B team 4-1 to Hungary.

CRICKET Rampant Hadlee falls just short for Kiwis

MELBOURNE (Reuter) - Australia's last pair held out for four overs in the face of a rampant Richard Hadlee to draw the third and final Test against New Zealand yesterday and win the series 1-0.

Australia set 247 to win after dismissing New Zealand for 286 in the first over yesterday, finished on 230 for nine, giving Allan Border his first series success as Australian captain.

Australia had appeared well set for victory when Border took them to within 100 runs of the required total for the loss of three wickets. But the dismissal of the Australian left-hander, Ibw to Hadlee for 43, sowed doubt amongst his teammates. Wickets fell steadily and the New Zealand fielders closed in.

Hadlee took five wickets for the 32nd time in his Test career, moving alongside England's Ian Botham as the most successful bowler in Test history with the dismissal of Tony Dodemaide, the ninth Australian to be dismissed. The 36-year-old medi-

um-pacer looked set to take a record 374th Test scalp as number 11 Mike Whitney joined Craig McDermott at the wicket.

With the score on 227 for nine, Australia were still 20 runs away from victory and the two decided to play for a draw.

Whitney, playing his first Test for six years in Australia, was left to face the last over from Hadlee as 21,000 Australian fans hardly dared to look.

Hadlee finished with five for 65. After his five wickets in the first innings he became the first bowler to capture 10 or more wickets in a Test eight times.

Until yesterday Border had not won a series, and only five Tests, since taking over from a fearful Kim Hughes after the second Test against the West Indies in 1984-85. Australia won the first Test in Brisbane by nine wickets and drew the second in Adelaide.

With the score still on 209 Mike Valetta was seventh out for 39, well

caught by Dipak Patel off John Bracewell. Defeat was suddenly more likely than victory.

Greg Dyer, no stranger to controversy in this match, was the cause of further disbelief among the New Zealanders when they claimed a catch off the batsman's glove. As Dyer rubbed his chest, umpire Tony Crafter gave him not out.

A few balls later Dyer was gone anyway, caught by wicketkeeper Ian Smith - who struggled through the day with a broken finger - off Hadlee for four.

Tony Dodemaide and McDermott added 11 before Dodemaide departed, setting the scene for the final nail-biting act.

SCORES: New Zealand 317 and 286 vs. Australia 357 and 230 for 9. Match drawn. In Calcutta, India, replying to the West Indies' first innings of 538 for five declared, were 521 for seven at close of play on the fourth day of the third Test yesterday. SCORES: West Indies first innings 538 for five declared (G. Greenidge 141). India first innings 521 for seven (D. Vengalekar 182 retired hurt. A. Lal 93, W. Davis three for 84, C. Walsh three for 117).

TENNIS Chesnokov advances in New Zealand Open

WELLINGTON, New Zealand (AP) - Fourth-seeded Andrei Chesnokov of the Soviet Union beat Australian Brod Dyke yesterday in the second round of the \$150,000 New Zealand Open championships.

Chesnokov, displaying great speed and precision, defeated Dyke 5-7, 6-2, 6-4 to advance to the quarter-finals of the Nabisco Grand Prix event, which is being played on a synthetic plexipave surface.

The Australian concentrated on working the angles, keeping his opponent wide, but Chesnokov's

speed and ability to retrieve proved to be superior.

Chesnokov will meet fifth-seeded Tim Wilkison of the U.S. in tomorrow's quarter-finals. Wilkison advanced after beating Stephen Shaw of Britain 7-5, 6-3.

There was one upset yesterday when New Zealander Bruce Derlin beat eighth-seeded American Marty Davis 6-4, 3-6, 9-7 in a marathon, three-hour match.

David Lewis, the New Zealander who knocked top seed Jonas Svensson of Sweden out of the event in

the first round, was himself ousted yesterday, going down 2-6, 6-2, 6-2 to Canadian Chris Pridham.

At the Port Washington International Junior Championships in New York, top-seeded Andrei Cherkasov of the Soviet Union, runner-up in the world junior championships, the Orange Bowl tournament last week, routed Li Jing of China, 6-1, 6-2 in the opening round of the Boys' 18 Division.

One of Israel's junior players, Haim Zion, was outclassed by Jay Nerenberg of the U.S. 6-0, 6-4.

Samaranch: 'No communist boycott in Seoul Olympics

SEOUL (AP) - Olympic officials indicated yesterday they do not expect a Communist boycott of the 1988 Seoul Games and predicted the event would be a major success.

Juan Antonio Samaranch, president of the International Olympic Committee, said in a New Year's message to South Korea that he was confident the Seoul Games would attract more nations than any other Olympics.

"As we enter the new year and rapidly approach the opening of the Games next September 17, I remain absolutely convinced that the Games of the 24th Olympiad in Seoul will attract the largest-ever participation and bring the entire sporting world together in an atmosphere of good will," Samaranch said.

Communist North Korea has threatened to lead a boycott of the Games if its demand to co-host the event is rejected. The IOC and South Korea have refused the demand.

Park Seh Jik, president of the Seoul Olympic organizing committee, echoed Samaranch's optimism with a New Year's message yesterday that also predicted a full turnout for the Games.

Jansher Khan is squash world No. 1

LONDON (Reuter) - Jansher Khan ended Jahangir Khan's six-year reign as the world's leading squash player when he took over the latest rankings issued by the International Squash Players' Association yesterday.

Jahangir, five times world champion, was deposed by fellow-Pakistani Jansher for the first time since taking the top ranking on January 1, 1982.

Jansher, 18, has won nine major tournament victories in his last 10 outings - including seven victories over Jahangir, one of them in the world championship in October.

Jansher was unranked in August 1986 but shot up the rankings to reach 14th by February this year, fourth in May and third in November.

RANKINGS: 1. Jansher Khan (Pakistan) 2. Jahangir Khan (Pakistan) 3. Chris Dittmar (Australia) 4. Ross Norman (New Zealand) 5. Rodney Martin (Australia) 6. Chris Robertson (Australia) 7. Ross Thomas (Australia) 8. Umar Hayat Khan (Pakistan) 9. Tristan Nanclarrow (Australia) 10. Ricki Hill (Australia).

NBA - Tuesday's games: Milwaukee 106, New Jersey 88; Houston 101, Detroit 91; NY Knicks 123, Portland 117; Atlanta 108, Chicago 98; Dallas 126, Sacramento 117; Utah 98, Denver 97; LA Lakers 131, Philadelphia 114.

NHL - Tuesday's game: NY Rangers 3, NY Islanders 3(OT); Boston 4, Pittsburgh 4(OT); Buffalo 5, Quebec 1; Montreal 4, Vancouver 1.

Fenwick follows Venables to Spurs

LONDON (Reuter) - Former England defender Terry Fenwick agreed to leave Queens Park Rangers and sign for Tottenham in a £550,000 transfer deal yesterday.

Fenwick, who was captain of Queens Park Rangers, rejected a possible move to Tottenham's north London rivals Arsenal in favour of a six-year contract at White Hart Lane.

The move means he rejoins his former manager Terry Venables, who took over at Tottenham last month, in succession to David Pleat.

Fenwick followed under Venables at both Crystal Palace and Queens Park Rangers before Venables joined Barcelona where he was dismissed earlier this season.

SPORTOTO TIPS

Single	Perm
1. Hap. PT v Mac. Hails	X
2. Bnei Yehuda v Hap. BeerSheva	X
3. Mac. Netanya v Shmona	X
4. Hap. Kfar Sava v Bet. Jerimam	X
5. Hap. Tel Aviv v Hap. Lod	X
6. Mac. Tel Aviv v Hap. Holon	X
7. Hap. Yehud v Bet. Netanya	X
8. Hap. Bat Yam v Hap. RG	X
9. Hap. Hifa v Mac. Sha'araim	X
10. Mac. R. Anidat v Mac. Jafa	X
11. Hap. Jerusalem v Hap. Acre	X
12. Mac. Yavne v Hap. Hadera	X
13. Hakoah v Hap. Tiberias	X
14. Hap. Ashdod v Bet. Ramat	X

Bobby Fischer: The grand chess recluse



IN HIS HEYDAY - Bobby Fischer, right, faces Boris Spassky.

Rupert Morris

LOS ANGELES - Bobby Fischer the man who so memorably destroyed Boris Spassky to win the World Chess Championship in Reykjavik, Iceland in 1972, has lived in eccentric seclusion ever since he refused to defend his title in 1975.

In Los Angeles a few days ago, he could have been spotted on a street corner making a rendezvous with yet another optimistic entrepreneur determined to tempt him out of retirement.

Louis Hankin, a property developer, made the trip from his home in Philadelphia to meet Fischer - only to be let down at the last moment. Like so many others before him, the great man made the rendezvous, but for the umpteenth time, came up with a new list of requirements. Hankin's patience eventually ran out, and he flew home.

Lina Grumette, who runs a chess club in Los Angeles, and used to be Fischer's friend and landlady, helped Hankin track his man down; but she never held out much hope. "He's just not dependable," she said.

Bobby Fischer is a mere 44-year-old and should be at the height of his powers. But he was a prodigy who peaked early. The son of a Jewish mother and a German doctor father who left home when he was two, Fischer was brought up in Brooklyn. At 14 he left high school to win the U.S. Chess Championship, and the following year he became the youngest ever international Grand Master.

When his turn came in 1972 to

challenge the long-established Soviet supremacy in the World Chess Championship, his extraordinary antics turned the most fascinating and politically-charged chess match of all time into a global media event.

He complained about everything from television cameras, the size of the chess boards, Soviet tactics and tournament rules to the meanness of the winner's purse - which was increased at the last moment to an unheard of \$156,000. Fischer pulled in his hotel room or played pinball until every one of his demands was met.

When the match eventually took place he tore the hapless Spassky to shreds, accompanying his winning moves with cries of "zap!", "pow!", or "wham!"

But the new American soap hero did not care about his public. Burning multi-million dollar offers, he retreated into the protective arms of Herbert W. Armstrong's worldwide Church of God in Pasadena, awaiting the return of Christ in 1975.

Christ didn't return and neither did Fischer, forfeiting his title to Karpov. He fell out with the Church of God and with most of his friends. In 1981 he was mistaken for a bank robber and arrested when he refused to give his name and address. He wrote a lurid 14-page account of his brief imprisonment under the title "I was Tortured in a Pasadena Jailhouse!"

He uses an alias, doesn't drive, has no telephone, and deals with the outside world through his only close friend Claudia Molarow, a matronly figure in her late fifties whom he met through the Church of God.

She now lives in Oklahoma and is almost as paranoid as Fischer. (London Observer Service)

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היפרכול
לקנות וליהנות מכל היתרונות

U.S. bonds to help Mexico repay its big foreign debt

By ALVER CARLSON
WASHINGTON (Reuters) — In an innovative effort to defuse the global debt crisis, the U.S. has said it will sell Mexico \$10 billion in U.S. bonds that can be used to erase a large chunk of Mexico's massive foreign debt.

The bond swap unveiled on Tuesday could mean that U.S. Treasury Secretary James Baker has stepped away from, if not abandoned, his two-year-old debt strategy that called for banks to lend new money to debtor countries as they reformed their economies to grow out of their debt woes.

The Baker plan, unveiled in September 1985, was designed to help countries service their outstanding debt through normal payback procedures and did not envision any discounting of loans.

"This suggests a major change in the way we have been dealing with the debt crisis," said one analyst. Representative Charles Schumer called the announcement "significant."

The treasury announced that it will issue \$10b. in so-called zero-coupon bonds, for which Mexico will pay only \$1.8b. at Tuesday's exchange rate.

Zero-coupon bonds are sold at a deep discount, but the holder does not receive regular interest payments.

Mexico will use the U.S. bonds as collateral to issue new bonds to the banks. The new Mexican bonds will pay twice a year. But the bonds will be considered more secure because

they will be backed by the U.S. securities.

The two billion dollars that Mexico will pay for the bonds will help finance the U.S. deficit and the programme will not cost the U.S. taxpayers any money.

The plan will help Mexico tackle its substantial economic exports, providing the first ray of hope in the debt crisis that began in 1982 when Mexico first signalled that it was close to default.

The global stock market crash in October crushed Mexico's booming stock prices and led to a steep fall in the nation's currency. This in turn hiked inflation.

Concern about the economy led to a huge capital flight from Mexico and to calls within the nation that the staggering foreign debt should be renegotiated.

Mexico may be in dire need of a plan, but it also holds enough dollars to be able to take advantage of it. Last February Brazil suspended interest payments on its commercial bank debt because its foreign reserves were low.

"It can't help but create a precedent for those countries that have enough reserves to consider 'buying back' their debt. But I can't think of any other of the major Latin American debtors that can do that right now," said international banking consultant Sally Shelton-Colby.

So while there may be a clamouring for a similar plan from other debt-laden nations, in reality there may not be many good candidates.

THE TAX BURDEN/Jeff Broide

New accounting regulations

VAT liability in certain transactions

Whereas previously VAT provisions specifically stipulated that in a transaction involving the sale of an asset which included an obligation by the seller to install or assemble (or other similar activity) the asset sold, then the liability to VAT was to be considered the time of receipt of each amount (on account) or, alternatively, the time of supplying the goods, whichever was the earlier.

Now, in the wake of Amendment No. 8 (to the VAT Articles), this has been cancelled and replaced by a list of goods on whose sale the liability for VAT will be deemed to be the amount received on account of the purchase or at the time of supply of the goods, whichever is the earlier, without regard to the terms of sale (such as an obligation to install, etc.).

The following is the list: 1) Air-conditioning systems for cooling or heating or both; 2) Central heating systems or part thereof; 3) Prefabricated structures; 4) Acoustic ceilings; 5) Traffic lights; 6) Elevators.

These new provisions are effective as of October 23, 1987.

Exemption from keeping books of account by salaried workers

Salaried employees who have additional sources of income may be exempt from the requirement of keeping books of account (in terms of the income tax regulations) provided they fulfil the following conditions:

* The income is from the supply of services such as fees for lectures, artists and such like;

* Withholding taxes have been deducted at source at a rate that is not less than 40% or, if so approved by the local tax office, at a rate not less than 30%;

* Expenditure incurred in the production of income has not been claimed for tax purposes (in terms of Section 17 of the Income Tax Ordinance);

* The obligation for the payment of VAT on such income is that of the recipient of the services in terms of various VAT Law provisions.

If all these conditions are met, then, as stated above, the taxpayer is not required to keep books of account.

Easing the accounting burden

New instructions have been issued as to the periods within which certain transactions must be recorded in the different books of account; the more significant ones are detailed below:

a. Cash Book (*Sefer Kupah*). Here any transaction made in cash must be recorded within three days of carrying out the transaction.

b. Order Book (*Sefer Hazmanot*). Here too the order must be recorded within three days of receipt of the order, but no later than the stage at which implementation has commenced.

c. Receipts and Disbursements Ledger (*Sefer Takbulim Veashlumim*). The incoming goods ledger and the inventory records — transactions involving these books must be recorded no later than 30 days from the end of the month in which any transaction was carried out and which has a bearing on these books.

It should be noted that where the entry of goods into the business is not covered by appropriate documentation, then any transaction involving such goods must be recorded in the incoming goods ledger and the inventory records close to the time of execution of the transaction.

It should be noted that the updated amounts (of turnovers) for determining the various categories under which taxpayers are liable to report on for income tax and VAT accounting purposes have been published and are effective as of January 1988. The turnover on which these instructions are based is the turnover including the various indirect taxes (including VAT).

Where these accounting provisions require noting the identity of the payer, failure to do so may lead to a fine calculated at 5% of the cash sales value. Taxpayers should exercise, as ever, the utmost caution in these matters.

The writer is a Certified Public Accountant (Israel). Questions on tax matters may be addressed to him care of The Jerusalem Post.

Swiftest pace since 1972

Business GDP rose 6.2 % in year

By AVI TEMKIN

Post Economic Reporter

The business sector's Gross Domestic Product rose during 1987 by 6.2 per cent, the fastest pace of growth since 1972, estimates released by the Central Bureau of Statistics showed.

The Gross Domestic Product for the entire economy rose by 4.6 per cent during the year, the bureau added. The GDP of the business sector has been preferred in recent years by economists as a better measure of economic growth, since it does not include spending financed from the state budget and spending by non-profit organizations.

The figures showed that the rapid growth in the product were concentrated in the first half of the year.

Bureau officials said that a considerable slowdown in the pace of growth took place in the last two quarters of 1987.

The relatively large increase in output during 1987 stemmed from a considerable rise in exports. In volume terms, sales to foreigners of goods and services rose by 11.2 per cent. Investment spending rose by 11.1 per cent, after three years of falling levels of investment.

Despite the rise during 1987, investment spending was still 17 below what it had been in 1983. Private consumption spending also rose rapidly, by 7.3 per cent.

Bureau officials said that the rise in the standard of living during the last two years has more than offset the sharp drops that took place in 1984 and 1985. Living standards in 1987 were 5 per cent above their level for 1983, they said. Civilian spending by the public sector rose 1987 by 1.1 per cent, continuing the trend of small increases in this demand since the beginning of the decade.

Military imports rose in 1987 by 111 per cent, leading to an increase of 35 per cent in defence spending. Domestic defence outlays rose by only 0.5 per cent.

The rise in domestic demand was due largely to a rapid increase in imports. The volume of civilian goods and services imported from abroad rose by 10.2 per cent. The bureau estimated that the gap between imports and exports of goods and services, excluding military imports, totalled \$3.4 billion, compared to \$2.8b. in 1986 and \$2.2b. in 1985.

According to the bureau, some 60 per cent of the rise in the deficit was the result of import prices rising faster than export prices. The rise in price alone caused an increase of \$200 million in the deficit. After deducting non-military foreign aid and contributions from abroad, there was a civilian current account deficit of \$350m. during 1987, compared to a surplus of \$700 million last year.

The officials said that if there had been no worsening in terms of trade, there would have been no deficit at all. Productivity in the business sector rose during 1987 by 3.1 per cent, while hourly wages rose by 10.8 per cent in real terms.

Unemployment went down in 1987 to 6.2 per cent of the civilian labour force, compared to 7.1 per cent the previous year. But the bureau officials indicated the fall in the rate of jobless took place in the first half of the year, while in the last six months unemployment has been on the rise again.

Industrial output rose in 1987 by 4.7 per cent, compared to 4.9 per cent in 1986. The output of the agricultural sector showed a rise of almost 15 per cent, while the building sector, which had shrunk by some 35 per cent since 1981, rose by 7.8 per cent during 1987.

(Continued from Page One)

Israel without an international conference. No problem. So tell me, please, do you want direct talks, with the PLO? You can have them tomorrow morning — if that's what you mean by direct talks.

"Jordan is not ready for direct talks, it has problems. And if you don't want to accept that it has problems, then go ahead and ignore them."

"But tell the truth, for once. The real truth! Let the nation know what the argument is really all about."

Israelis, he said in what seemed to be a hint at Labour's election tactics, will have to decide what likelihood there is of achieving quiet in the territories in the absence of any peace process. Or did people perhaps believe that such quiet could be won by solutions involving transfer, military government and the like?

It had been the Likud leader

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Arab businessmen use Israeli firm's data bank

Arab businessmen in Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Kuwait and Jordan, as well as government-run companies in Romania and China, are utilizing an Israeli firm's worldwide stock inventory to find markets for their goods or the cheapest price for obtaining various materials.

According to David Sela, managing director of Kodo — Marketing and Information Initiatives, which runs the information bank, the bank has up-to-date information from around 400 firms and bodies in 84 countries on 40 different sectors.

The bank's Arab and Communist clients deal with the firm via middlemen employed in Cyprus, although initially these clients actually dealt with the company direct. The use of middlemen was introduced to make life easier for these clients.

Gadot Yam will run new tankers

The Yohananoff brothers of Gadot Yam plan to operate two new tankers through a leasing combination deal. The price of the deal was not disclosed; however, according to a company statement it is worth tens of millions of dollars. The deal, the statement said, was signed with an unidentified party in the Far East.

Gadot Yam has been operating Israeli ships for the transport of bulk chemicals since the early sixties. The two new stainless steel tankers, each with a volume of 8,000 tons, are equipped with the most advanced technology.

Kwik Copy to grow

Kwik Copy Printing, the international printing chain, says it plans to open 25 more branches within three years in Israel. The company now has two branches in Tel Aviv.

Each franchise owner will have to invest \$100,000, according to the holders of the company's franchise in Israel, Barry and Julian Green.

Spicy sales abroad for Agrexco

Agrexco reported recently that it has sold 61 tons — \$400,000 worth — of fresh spices since October, more than double the 25 tons it exported in the same period last year for \$130,000.

Israeli foods score hit at Waldbaum's

About a million dollars worth of Israeli-made foods a week were sold in Waldbaum supermarkets in the U.S. during that chain's recent "Taste of Israel" festival. The event was held in conjunction with the Supersol-Hyperkol chain in Israel.

Trade up with South Korea

A 33 per cent increase in exports to South Korea was recorded during the first nine months of 1987, reaching \$14.4 million, the Ministry of Industry and Trade has announced. Imports from the Asian country increased by 48 per cent, reaching a total of \$38 million.

Max Livnat, head of the ministry's foreign trade administration, said that Israel attaches great importance to the establishment of strong

ger economic ties with South Korea, due to that country's accelerated economic development.

Israeli exports to South Korea include chemicals, metal products, machines and electrical equipment. Imports to Israel include food products, threads, machinery and equipment.

Suit over mail lists

AB Data Israel has filed a NIS 50,000 suit in Tel Aviv Municipal Court against the Machshava Company for alleged unauthorized use of its mailing lists. The suit charges that Machshava stole the proprietary lists from AB Data, a mailing list company that rents lists of its own and several owned jointly with the Yellow Pages Company.

Beeper, Pagecall join forces

The Beeper and Pagecall beeper service companies have announced their merger, with Samuel Cohen as managing director of the new firm.

Beeper-Pagecall already has over 6,500 subscribers. The company expects a 25 per cent increase during 1988, after the introduction of the sophisticated alphanumeric beeper device (visual message).

Galaxy to handle Co-op's trade

The Co-op Group has now concentrated its import-export activities through the founding of Galaxy International Trade Ltd.

Galaxy's main objective is twofold: consolidation of imports for all companies belonging to the Co-op and the encouragement of exports within the framework of the international Co-op's reciprocal contacts.

'All flats should qualify for loan'

The Contractors and Builders Federation is demanding an end to the limitation on the size of a flat for eligibility of the purchaser for a housing loan.

Young couples who wish to purchase flats with the aid of a Housing Ministry loan are limited to a flat with an area of 88sq.m. If the flat they purchase is larger than that, they are not entitled to any help at all, a spokesman for the Contractors and Builders Association said.

Thus, a couple purchasing a 68sq.m. flat in Tel Aviv's fashionable Kikar Dizengoff for \$120,000 is eligible; however, a couple buying a 108sq.m. flat in Hadera for \$60,000 will receive no aid.

New export-import classification

The new year will see a new classification system for imports and exports. Along with the majority of the world, Israel on January 1 will begin using the "harmonized system" of classification.

This new system, through its world-wide standardization, will make it simpler to decide on the correct classification of goods and the tax liable on the product.

The "harmonized system" is constructed around four numbers, plus an additional two secondary numbers and these six numbers will identify the classification of each country's export goods.

Each country will also be able to add additional numbers as necessary.

PERES

"We are going to have to make up our minds where we're going, and to talk the straight truth to each other," he warned.

The point was taken further in Peres's reply to another motion for the agenda from his party's Dov Ben-Meir.

Peres said he agreed with much of Ben-Meir's analysis. Had the Palestinians accepted the UN resolutions in 1948, they would have had both a state and peace, and Israel would have had a state at peace instead of at war, Peres said.

It was also a fact that between 1948 and 1967, he said, the Arabs had neither annexed Judea and Samaria nor made Jerusalem their capital. All such claims had been voiced only after 1967.

It had been the Likud leader

Menachem Begin, the foreign minister continued, who had accepted Anwar Sadat's hand of friendship. It had been Begin who had given up the whole of Sinai and even sent substantial IDF forces to evacuate Jewish settlements in the area.

Israel had a record of wanting to solve its problems with its neighbours peacefully, Peres insisted. It was waiting now for a move from the Arab side.

But Peres said he rejected Ben-Meir's generalization that there were no Arabs ready for a settlement.

There were Arabs and Palestinians ready to make peace and their numbers were growing, he stressed, because making peace was not doing Israel a favour, it was something of vital importance to the Arabs, too.

And the same argument applied equally to Israel, he insisted.

CLASH

(Continued from Page One)

Signs of blood were discovered at the scene of the gunfight, indicating that the terrorists had suffered further casualties.

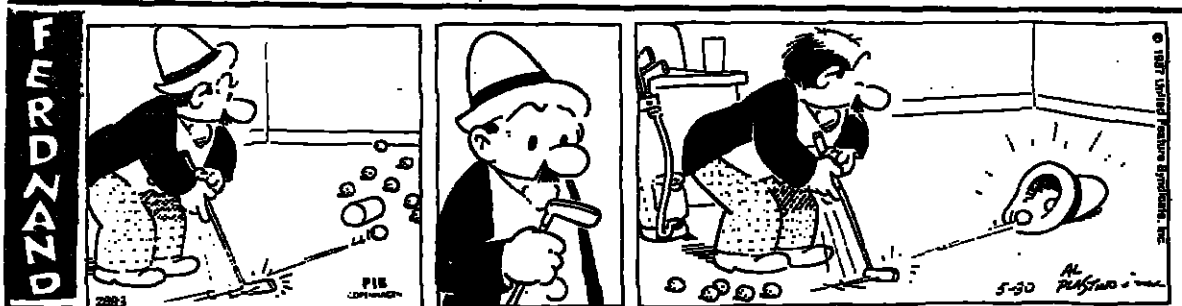
The gunman had been carrying explosives as well as their own rifles and ammunition.

It is believed they had intended to plant mines and roadside bombs along routes used by IDF and South Lebanese Army troops.

Earlier, senior IDF officers and Lebanese observers warned that Iran's growing involvement in Lebanon was becoming a threat that would have to be contained with force.

The remarks were made at a conference of the IDF's Northern Command in the Christian township of Marjayoun inside the security zone on Tuesday.

The speakers stressed that the military operations of the Iranian-backed Hizbullah were only part of Iran's wide-ranging activities in Lebanon. The ultimate aim was to turn Lebanon into another Iranian-style Islamic republic.



CROSSWORD

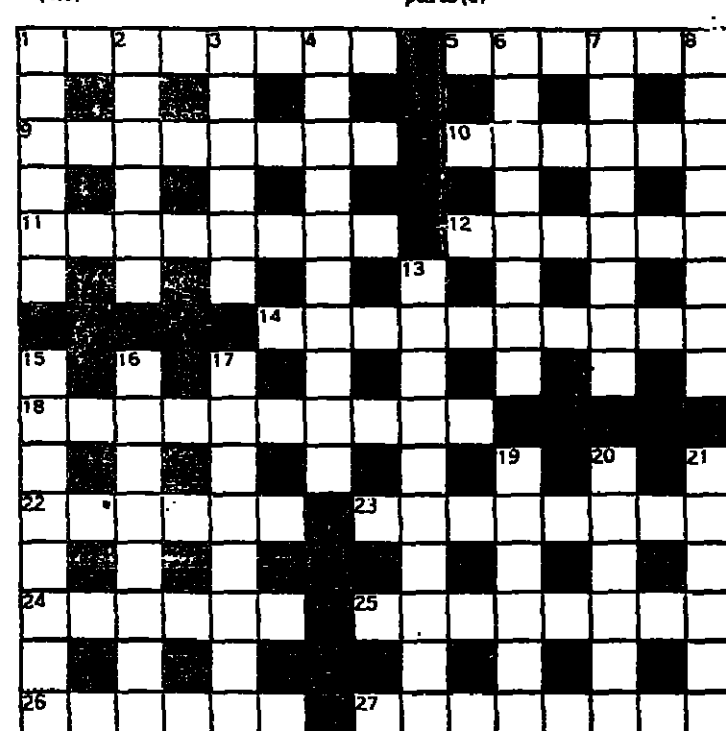
ACROSS

- 1 Simpleton, taken in by Buttons, trips (8)
- 5 Mind! She's in love with Cupid (6)
- 9 Keep finding the purpose of a hair-ribbon (8)
- 10 With new port I'd be lethargic (6)
- 11 Charm one's way in (8)
- 12 Kind and sound advice of couple who want seven children (6)
- 14 What an offender might well offer haltingly? (4,6)
- 18 Unexpectedly find an invitation from the neighbour opposite (4,6)

- 22 Distributed dole to be stolen (6)
- 23 One with burning ambition or saint's disposition (8)
- 24 One in follows gold to its source (6)
- 25 Match making contest? (4,4)
- 26 Tourist attractions the gunman sees through (6)
- 27 Say trash could be full of friends? (3,5)

DOWN

- 1 Swollen with breathless pride? (6)
- 2 Goblin prince goes into the ground (6)
- 3 A second class route to foreign parts (6)



- 4 Ideal items for the new upholstery apprentice to work on (4,6)
- 6 14-pound cutter used by quarrymen (6,5)
- 7 Nit-picking officer contracted debts (8)
- 8 Either positively threaten, or cool your temper (8)
- 13 Critical letter-checkers encircle the three last vowels (10)
- 15 Call in bread and milk for the coquilles St-Jacques (8)
- 16 Striking confession by an artist's model (8)
- 17 What vain, ageing belles want to do after pressing the UP button? (4,4)
- 19 Secret formula for dividing the speed of light by time (6)
- 20 A US attorney supporting army chief is a chirpy type (6)
- 21 Emphasise the chief cause of neurosis (6)

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTIONS

SWELLIDEA
WEESEER
CALLED TO ORDER
SLUGGLOD
TAKES ED RHINO
AI CRUEL CS
NUNCIATION INTIME
DO GONTON NH
ROOTED TO GREENE
EATED HAWK OTHER
SA OR NGET
PRICE INCREASE
T K V E A T
ASSERTING

Yesterday's Quick Solution
ACROSS: 7 Steps, 8 Neater, 10 Unaware, 11 Towel, 12 Ever, 13 Spare, 17 Tarry, 18 Face, 22 Tint, 23 Tremble, 24 Ration, 25 Paella. DOWN: 1 Assured, 2 Menaces, 3 Sprat, 4 Venture, 5 Brown, 6 Droll, 9 Desperate, 14 Barton, 18 Gambols, 16 General, 19 Start, 20 Dirty, 21 Debar.

QUICK CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 1 Salad vegetable (7)
- 5 Sprinkle (5)
- 8 Pamphlet (5)
- 9 American shanty (7)
- 10 Colonist (7)
- 11 Aquatic rodent (5)
- 12 Uncommon thing (6)
- 13 Hedge shrub (6)
- 17 Power (5)
- 19 Joisted (7)
- 22 Well educated (7)
- 23 Pendant throat organ (5)
- 24 Moon goddess (5)
- 25 Indignation (7)

DOWN

- 1 Water-lily (7)
- 2 Betrayer (7)
- 3 Up to the time of (6)
- 4 Make certain (6)
- 5 19th century philosopher (7)
- 6 Prepared (6)
- 7 Soured milk (7)
- 12 Found out (7)
- 13 Fairy queen (7)
- 15 Bird of prey (7)
- 16 Protected from light (6)
- 18 African state (5)
- 20 Group of soldiers (5)
- 21 Haggard (5)

GENERAL ASSISTANCE EMERGENCY PHARMACIES

Jerusalem: Elison, 10 Yashayahu, 383753; Balsam, Salah Eddin, 272318; Shu'afat, Shu'afat Road, 810108; Dar Aldawa, Herod's Gate, 282058.
Tel Aviv: Dizengoff, 132 Dizengoff, 222590; Kupat Holim Cislit, 7 Amsterdam, 222383.
Ra'anana-Kfar Sava: Shuali, a. Joffe, Ra'anana.
Netanya: Geva, 14 Shaar Hagal, 22895.
Kiryat Gat: Niv Kiryat Gat, 18 Hershin, Kiryat Gat.
Haifa: Yavne, 1 Ibn Sina, 672288.

DUTY HOSPITALS

Jerusalem: Hadassah Ein Kerem (pediatrics, obstetrics, gynecology, internal, E.N.T.), Shaare Zedek (obstetrics, surgery, orthopedics).
Tel Aviv: Rotsch (pediatrics), Ichilov (internal, surgery).
Netanya: Laniado.

FIRE 102

In emergencies dial 102. Otherwise, dial number of your local station as given in the front of the phone directory.

POLICE 100

Dial 100 in most parts of the country. In Tiberias dial 524444, Kiryat Shmona 4444.

FLIGHTS

24 - Hours Flight Information Services: Call 03-9712484 (multi-line). Arrivals Only (Taped Message) 03-381111 (20 lines).

FIRST AID 101

Magen David Adom

In emergencies dial 101 in most parts of the country. In addition:

Ashdod 51332 Jerusalem 523133
Ashkelon 23333 Kiryat Shmona 344442
Bat Yam 5511111 Kiryat Shmona 54424
Beersheva 74767 Netanya 72332
Carmiel 386265
Dan Region 78111 Petah Tikva 9231111
Eilat 72333 Rehovot 461333
Haifa 512233 Rishon LeZion 4233
Hazer 936333 Safed 93033
Holon 93133 Tel Aviv 5480111
Tiberias 79011

* Mobile Intensive Care Unit (MICU) service in the area, around the clock.

Emergency - Conditional First Aid. Tel. Jerusalem 27171, Tel Aviv 567111 (children/youth 03-261113, Haifa 672222, Beersheva 418111, Netanya 35316).

Rape Crisis Centre (24 hours), for help call Tel Aviv, 234819, Jerusalem - 248554, and Haifa 680111.

The Medical Poison Control Centre at Ramat Hashikma, phone (04) 528205, for emergency calls, 24 hours a day, for information in case of poisoning.
Kupat Holim Information Centre Tel. 03-433331, 433500 Sunday-Thursday, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Friday 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

EXPLOSION

(Continued from Page One)

ber. The postman, however, had brought it to the house on Rehov Shalhevet. "I did not suspect anything, even though I thought it was odd that it came from Turkey," Aviva recalled.

When she saw that the card read "Merry Christmas," she assumed that it had been sent in error. She put the card back in the envelope and asked Asher to return it to the postman the next day. About an hour and a half later, when Asher was at work in the Ceramics Centre in Or Yehuda, he opened it again out of curiosity.

Asher and Ma'aj were treated in a local Kupat Holim clinic before being taken to Tel Hashomer.

The Or Yehuda letter has been the only letter bomb to slip through the security checks set up by the postal service and the police after three identical envelopes were discovered and detonated in Kiryat Arba on Tuesday.

On Tuesday afternoon, Binjamin Dayan asked his seven-year-old son, David, to fetch the mail.

"When David brought me the en-

velope, I saw something strange, something that wasn't right," the father said yesterday. "I came here 10 years ago from Argentina, and as far as I know, I don't have any relatives or friends in Turkey."

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A question of purpose

APART from Abu Nidal, Israel's bloodiest terrorist enemy is without a doubt Ahmed Jibril, head of the Syrian-sponsored Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine - General Command. It must take self-restraint and moral commitment of the highest order to treat chieftain Jibril and his gang, for all their unspeakable crimes, as deserving the protection of any civilized legal system.

For its own pressing reasons, however, Israel has in the past had occasion to make deals with Jibril. On April 1, 1985, the inner cabinet endorsed a prisoner swap with the PFLP-GC, under which 1,150 jailed terrorists, most of them its own members, were released for three IDF soldiers seized by the Jibrilites during the war in Lebanon. It did so knowing that the list of terrorists to be freed included a number of notorious murderers.

One of Jibril's conditions was also that over 600 of the terrorists who were let go should be allowed to stay on in the territories. Acceptance of that demand, too, was considered worth securing the liberation of the three Israeli soldiers.

Israeli public opinion was sharply divided over the deal, for obvious reasons. The suggestion was made that Israel, a civilized country, should not honour such an agreement with a bunch of blackmailing barbarians. At the very least, it was proposed, Israel ought to either deport all the freed terrorists who had opted for staying on, or to slap tough jail sentences on them again for the slightest offence. The government, for presumably good reasons, rejected any such advice.

That might have been a mistake. Certainly the prisoner swap did not deter Jibril from pressing on with his terrorist anti-Israel campaign. The latest PFLP-GC exploit, in Galilee, was carried out on what has become known as the "hang-glider night," three weeks ago, and it helped spark the disorders in Gaza which promptly spread into Judea and Samaria and even spilled over into Israel proper.

Had the government decided to strike back at the time by detaining, or for that matter deporting, the major released criminals among the benefactors of the Jibril prisoner exchange, it would probably have encountered little dissent. Only now, when the riots have, however briefly, died down, the idea of deportation is apparently to be acted upon.

It is not to be a mass expulsion, and even the Americans might find it hard to object. But a small number of local Palestinian "militants," with ties to the terrorist organizations, are apparently to be deported as a token of Israel's determination to punish the riot organizers and to deter the recurrence of disturbances; and at least five of them are to be from among the Jibril group.

But what purpose will it serve? It was plainly not the intended deportees who whipped up the riots in the territories, but local firebrands fuelled by widespread popular discontent. The defence authorities and the government would only be kidding themselves, therefore, if they expect this step to promote tranquility in the territories.

A very bad joke

WERE PURIM around the corner, the message from Bucharest could perhaps have been taken as a mildly tolerable piece of diplomatic drollery. But it is not Purim yet, and Romania's request to Israel for permission to send food and medicines in aid of Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza must be rated a very bad joke.

President Nicolae Ceausescu is, of course, a friend of this country, and it is only a request that he is making. But, being a friend, he might have ordered inquiries to be made by his embassy here first, as to whether what ails the Palestinians in the territories is really a shortage of food and medicines. Had he done so, Mr. Ceausescu would readily have discovered that he had been taken in by his lying friends from the PLO.

Food and medicines are, on the other hand, or so it is reported, in grave shortage in another country that must be even closer to Mr. Ceausescu's heart than the West Bank and Gaza, and it would be well if his government applied itself more energetically than it has apparently been doing to supplying the crying needs of the people of that country. If a request for a reasonable amount of the necessary aid were forwarded to Jerusalem, it is reasonable to assume that it would be given the most serious consideration.

LETTER-BOMBS

(Continued from Page One)

immigrant from Argentina, became suspicious on receiving a large Christmas card from Turkey. His wife opened the envelope and removed the card, and called the police when she detected wires and batteries.

When a postman who passed by told police that he had just delivered two other cards to local residents, they were quickly collected.

The Turkish charge d'affaires in Israel, Ekrem Guvendiren, pledged yesterday that "the matter will be dealt with most seriously."

Postal authorities in Istanbul said they were mystified as to how the letter-bombs got through their security checks, and added that they couldn't remember a similar action in recent years.

One postal official in charge of security said the Turkish post office has a special unit that checks letters and parcels for explosives. He said that letters intended for Arab countries and Israel are subjected to special scrutiny.

Istanbul police have launched an investigation to locate the sender of the letter-bombs.

Deputy police chief Agar said a check of the Dilson Hotel's records showed that no one with the name D. Nissim had stayed there recently. The surname is common among Turkish Jews.

He said police were trying to find which district post office the letters had been mailed from, in the hope that an employee might remember what the sender looked like.

Turkish radio and television gave wide coverage to the incident, and today's Turkish newspapers are expected to carry the story in their main headlines.

Shlomo Aharonishky, head of the Israel police's bomb disposal unit, said the last wave of letter-bomb attacks in Israel occurred in January 1971, when a police sapper was severely injured by one of the devices.

Aharonishky said that each letter-bomb received this week contained 20-30 grams of explosive material.

"There seems a magic in the very name of Christmas," says the writing on each card, quoting Charles Dickens.

The card plays "Jingle Bells," if it doesn't explode first.

RABIN WARNS

(Continued from Page One)

Meanwhile the so-called quick justice trials of alleged rioters continued in the territories yesterday, with 47 cases being heard at the Nablus military court. Of these, 38 were remanded in custody after pleading not guilty. The nine who confessed were jailed for periods of between one and four-and-a-half months, and fined.

Apparently in line with the Foreign Office request to go easy on younger offenders, a 14-year-old and a 15-year-old charged with disorderly conduct were released on bail.

In a case not connected with the disturbances, the court sentenced journalist Mohammed Amrah to 13 months in prison for being a member of Force 17, the PLO commando group.

The world according to Mikhail Gorbachev

David Krivine

MIKHAIL GORBACHEV could be one of us. He is cast in a different mould from his predecessors, those obscure, enigmatic and suspicious men of the Kremlin. Instead, he is friendly and open-minded, and he talks sense - being even ready, for example, to release prisoners of Zion. He sounds like the product of a liberal Western university; or is this all a bluff?

When he says, "The struggle between capitalism and socialism should take the form only of peaceful competition and peaceful rivalry," can he be trusted?

That question, perhaps the most critical facing the world today, makes an otherwise dull book, *Toward a Better World*, interesting. The volume is a collection of speeches by Gorbachev, all delivered in the year 1986. It is printed by a British publisher, Hutchinson, and has a preface by a British Labour Party leader, Denis Healey.

Gorbachev attacks the Soviet regime, but he also defends it - and resolutely. He sees Marxism-Leninism as the source of all wisdom. He quotes Lenin in practically every speech (while, incidentally, not mentioning Stalin even once). In summary, he offers no change to the Bolshevik system: he only wants to make it work better.

One scans his words to see what he really means. His criticism of the existing order is certainly biting. He admits that since the 1970s, things have gone wrong in the Soviet economy. The last two five-year plans, he states openly, did not achieve their targets.

He goes further, giving breathtaking

glances into the defects of the Russian planning system. We discover that modernization is being achieved exclusively through the creation of new factories. As to the old factories, they are left to continue operating with out-of-date equipment. In the West, they would also have to modernize, or else go bankrupt. In the Soviet Union there are no bankruptcies.

The cruel displacement of men by machines does not take place, which sounds nice. But, Gorbachev observes, productivity is held back and, most startling of all, the new factories find themselves starved of labour. There is none to spare, since everybody remains in the old factories, doing jobs that machines could do better.

He wants to change all that, but not by abolishing the planning system. He urges the authorities to plan better. Planning better includes planning less. Factories should be given more autonomy, with less "petty control" from the centre. The power to control unfortunately remains.

Gorbachev wants more freedom in the artistic sphere. He calls for "talented and imaginative books, films, plays, paintings and music... which can enrich the people's intellectual life."

Fine, so what does he propose? Something less than drastic: "Serious consideration should be given to suggestions from the public that the standard for judging works nomi-

nated for distinguished prizes should be raised." He prints this revolutionary thought in italics, if you please.

NEVERTHELESS, Gorbachev is good news for the world at large and for Israel as well, because he is setting new forces in motion. He speaks reverently of the Communist Party, yet lashes the bureaucrats, the parasites, the plunderers of socialist property. He attacks scholasticism, doctrinaireism, dogmatism. "Communists want the truth," he says, "always and under all circumstances."

He is for life and for the individual; he is against the omnipotence of ministries. He keeps declaring: "There is no replacing people's creative initiative with instructions, even the best of them. Today it is inadmissible - and practically impossible - to solve all questions at the centre."

There is a tremendous plus in Gorbachev, and a tremendous minus.

The plus is his fervent common sense. This is most manifest in his enthusiasm for disarmament. He wants to abolish not just intermediate nuclear missiles, but all nuclear weapons. He is ready to reduce conventional forces too.

He sees President Reagan's Star Wars programme as a perpetuation of the arms race. If the Americans do it, we shall have to do it as well, he warns - and to what purpose? If we dismantle our nuclear arsenal, there won't be any missiles for America's laser beams to shoot down.

The anti-Israeli press abroad - and at home

Macabee Dean

WHY DO Israelis go in for this self-flagellation? Partly because most Israelis really believe that the Arabs in the West Bank and Gaza Strip have a right to self-determination. And this Israeli feeling is also being exploited successfully by the Arabs.

Yet there is no reason for any guilt feelings in this matter. The Israelis in 1948 only wanted a country in which they could live in peace; the leaders of both the refugees and non-refugees living in the West Bank and Gaza Strip say openly that they want an independent country to use as a springboard for the annihilation of Israel. The Arabs have no guilt feelings about playing on the sympathy of Israelis and the rest of the world in this matter.

If the anti-Israeli media fuel the foreign media, what can be done to show the situation in a better light? Probably the first thing which comes to mind is to declare the West Bank and Gaza Strip a "military area" and close both off to the media. But such a move would be greeted with howls of protest around the world.

The Foreign Press Association in Israel, on hearing recently that the West Bank and Gaza Strip "might" be closed to the media, issued the statement: "A free press with full access to news of public concern is a basic bulwark of democracy... Only undemocratic countries make it impossible for a journalist to do his job fully."

This is inaccurate and misleading.

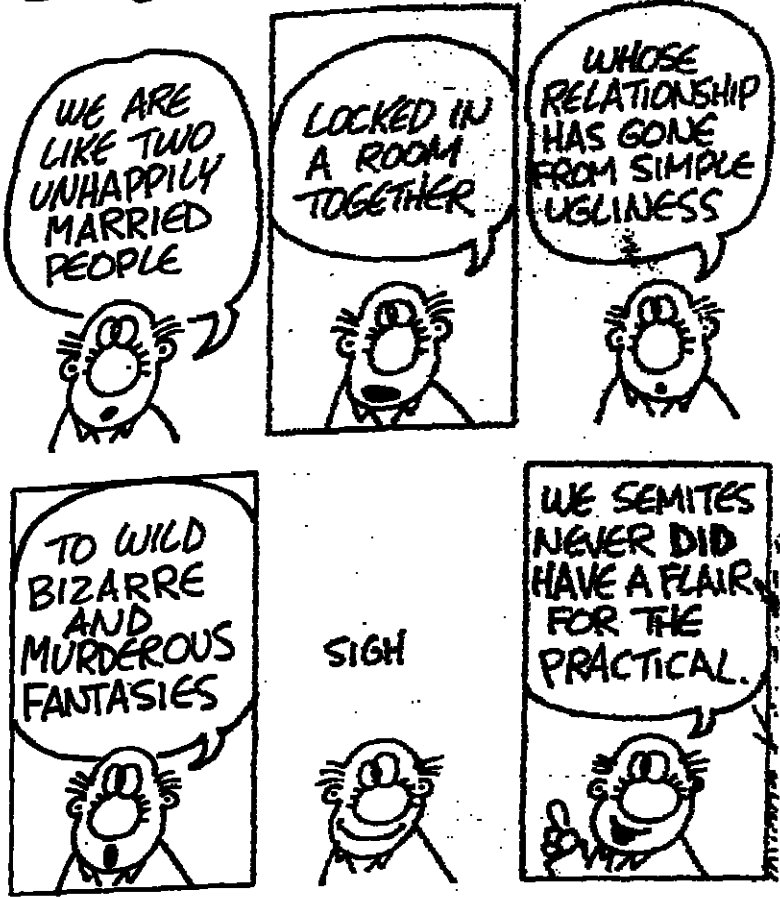
It means that the two leading democracies in the world, England and the U.S., are "undemocratic." For Prime Minister Thatcher denied the press free coverage of the Falklands war, as did President Reagan until the fracas was over after U.S. troops invaded the island of Grenada.

Both felt it was justified to keep out the press when a state of war existed. And the terrorists in the West Bank are at war with Israel, even if Israel is not at war with them.

The American media got a sharp shock when it protested Reagan's decision: The public, according to opinion polls, supported the president's move by a considerable majority. When the National Opinion Research Centre conducted a survey to determine "public confidence" in 1983, the year of the Grenada invasion, the medical profession scored 52.3 per cent, the banks, 24.1 per cent, and the press got 13.7 per cent. But this was reasonably good because the press came out ahead of TV, with 12.7 per cent, and Congress, with 10.2 per cent. A recent survey at Tel Aviv University also put credibility in the Israeli media far down on the list.

It is certain that the majority of Israelis (at least the majority of Knesset members) are out of step with the local media or, to put it

Dry Bones



The minus is that Gorbachev does nothing to eradicate totalitarianism. The Soviet Union remains a one-party state: the press remains in the hands of the government; the law courts go on doing what the Politburo tells them; individuals (Jews and others) are no more free to speak out, worship or travel than before.

Gorbachev's reforms may be designed simply to reactivate the existing hierarchy, removing corrupt officials and bringing in bright young ones to replace them, with the ultimate objective of rehabilitating the archaic Communist dictatorship.

On the other hand he may, intentionally or not, be doing more than that. The radical changes he advocates (reducing the size of the civil service, making 12 million workers redundant) could shake the existing regime to its foundations. Education has spread in the Soviet Union; technology has taken over. The people are no longer unlettered peasants, ready to do what they are told.

Gorbachev is sending out messages that have earth-shattering implications. Will they be picked up?

The writer is a member of The Jerusalem Post editorial staff.

READERS' LETTERS

BOTH VICTIM AND VICTIMIZER

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post

Sir - Having just returned this past summer from a guest professorship at the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia, I was interested to read Sherry Chayot's article of December 20 on anti-Semitic jokes, slurs and behaviours associated with the image of the "Jewish American Princess" on American university campuses, as reprinted from *Lilith*. I also can attest to the shocking presence of ugly, nefarious anti-Semitic graffiti at UPenn, a school with a significant, diverse and active Jewish student population (sometimes, so I heard, called Jew-Penn in various circles for that reason).

In my view, the distance between ostensibly harmless, supposedly humorous JAP-baiting expressions and more virulent anti-Semitic messages is slight indeed. These expressions manifest clearly the manifold characteristics of literary anti-Semitism, a phenomenon with a long history of its own.

Two examples of meretricious graffiti, which I have remembered and which may be "fit to print" (sic) are: "I'd love to gas this library and give you kikes a taste of Auschwitz." And, "Listen you damn kikes! There are no children of Israel, only a bunch of smelly heeb squatters! Kill the Jews!" The intentions and range of the graffiti I noticed are so

variegated that any single attempt to explain away this omnibus phenomenon is bound to be a reductionist simplification.

For the record, I believe Sherry Chayot has also falsified the picture by characterizing "most young Jewish women on [American university campuses as] the daughters of parents who have 'made it'... their feeling is they've earned the right to show it off." To the extent that the appearance of anti-Semitic graffiti and related behaviour reflects group phenomena, and not isolated, individual acts, we need to evaluate intergroup relations and publicize the results of our studies, as Prof. Gary Spencer of Syracuse University apparently is doing.

I should like to add that upon my return to Ben-Gurion University, I was similarly shocked and saddened by the presence of obscene anti-Arab graffiti in our university restrooms, similar in many ways to the anti-Semitic varieties I saw in the U.S. This topic needs to be addressed publicly as well. We need to be vigilant as a people, so it appears, in both areas, in order to avoid being victimized in the Diaspora and assuming the part of oppressive victimizer here. Both roles are, I believe, equally reprehensible.

DR. MARK GELBER
Beersheba.

THE WADI ARA ROAD

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post

Sir - Last week local inhabitants closed the main Wadi Ara highway, leaving Moshav Mei-Ami cut off. For the past few years, we have been warning of such an eventuality, but all our words fell on deaf ears. Now suddenly there is talk of building a new road around Wadi Ara, which will surely be a great waste of public funds and effort.

The answer is twofold: one, to improve the existing highway to the dual-carriageway it deserves to be, and two, to increase Jewish settlement in this area.

We call upon the Government of Israel not to give us up.

RALPH ALON, Secretary
and members of Moshav Mei-Ami
Mei-Ami.

RIOT CONTROL

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post

Sir - According to your report of December 23, Yossi Sarid stated that the South Korean security authorities have worked out riot control systems and acquired suitable gear, and there is no reason why Israel should not do likewise. To which Chief of General Staff Dan Shomron replied that the comparison did not hold, because the riot squads were South Koreans and so were the demonstrators.

This reply is outrageous. It makes no difference if the nationality is the same or not. The South Korean riot squads were in no less danger than those in Israel, and surely Israel's democracy in practice is above that of South Korea.

I understand Israel's security needs in controlling the territories, not bowing to terrorist demands and stopping violent demonstrations, but the end does not justify the means. In the eternal struggle of good versus evil, here manifested as democracy versus terrorism, evil always has the advantage in that it is not bound by conscience, public opinion, or moral law and ethics. Good must not allow itself to fall to the temptation of violating that which is right in order to gain a quick victory over evil. A decent society establishes laws to protect that which is good in it and to keep in check that which is evil.

DINO WENINO
Kibbutz Beit Keshet.

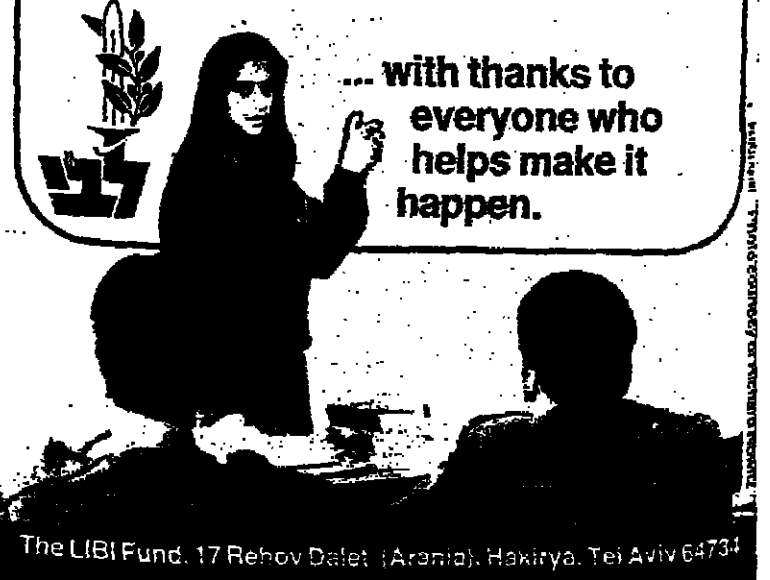
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